

Abstract

A programmable optical reader can include a program loading component and a program execution component operative to execute an externally generated program, whereby executing the externally generated program includes replacing a portion of the optical reader program. A programmable optical reader can include a two-dimensional image sensor, an image frame memory storing two-dimensional electronic images, and can be configured to be reprogrammed by any one of receipt of reprogramming data from a local host processor or receipt of programming data from an external remote off-site processor.